

## Rulemaking Fact Sheet

(5 MRSA §8057-A)

AGENCY: Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance

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CHAPTER NUMBER AND RULE TITLE: 857, Small Business Health Insurance Premium Support Program

TYPE OF RULE (*check one*): ☒ Routine Technical ☐ Major Substantive

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 24-A M.R.S. § 212 and unallocated language in P.L. 2021, ch. 483, Part C, An Act To Provide Allocations for the Distribution of State Fiscal Recovery Funds (L.D. 1733)

DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF PUBLIC HEARING: November 22, 2021, 10:00 a.m., from the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, 76 Northern Avenue, Gardiner, Maine 04345. The hearing will be held by an audio-visual link, and before the hearing the Superintendent will post instructions for attending the hearing remotely on the Bureau of Insurance web site.

COMMENT DEADLINE: 4:30 p.m., December 3, 2021

PRINCIPAL REASON(S) OR PURPOSE FOR PROPOSING THIS RULE [*see* §8057-A(1)(A)&(C)]: to establish the necessary conditions and procedures to implement the Small Business Premium Support Program, including: the procedure for allocating the appropriated funding to Maine small group policyholders; setting the conditions and requirements for reimbursement to small group carriers of their provision of premium relief payments to small groups; and setting the conditions and requirements to provide reimbursement to small group carriers of their administrative costs in providing the premium relief payments.

IS MATERIAL INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE IN THE RULE [§8056(1)(B)]? ☐ YES ☒ NO

ANALYSIS AND EXPECTED OPERATION OF THE RULE [*see* §8057-A(1)(B)&(D)]: See above.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF RELEVANT INFORMATION CONSIDERED DURING DEVELOPMENT OF THE RULE (including up to 3 primary sources relied upon) [*see* §§8057-A(1)(E) & 8063-B]: Bureau staff's professional judgment and P.L. 2021, ch 483.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT OF THE RULE [*see* §8057-A(1)(C)]: See below.

***FOR EXISTING RULES WITH FISCAL IMPACT OF \$1 MILLION OR MORE, ALSO INCLUDE:***

**ECONOMIC IMPACT, WHETHER OR NOT QUANTIFIABLE IN MONETARY TERMS** [*see* §8057-A(2)(A)]: PL 2021, c. 483, § C-2 allocates \$39,000,000 over FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 to the Bureau of Insurance to use to carry out the purposes of this program. The Bureau will oversee the distribution of premium relief payments to small group health insurers, and will monitor and audit the insurers' compliance with the program.

**INDIVIDUALS, MAJOR INTEREST GROUPS AND TYPES OF BUSINESSES AFFECTED AND HOW THEY WILL BE AFFECTED** [*see* §8057-A(2)(B)]: Business owners who provide health insurance to their employees in Maine's small group health insurance market will receive health insurance premium relief payments for 18 months starting November 2021. Business owners must share these payments with their enrolled employees proportionate to their contributions to group coverage.

**BENEFITS OF THE RULE** [*see* §8057-A(2)(C)]: The rule will provide health insurance premium relief to businesses and their enrolled employees in Maine's small group health insurance market.

*Note: If necessary, additional pages may be used.*